

2011 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations

Project Title: Jubilee Center Afterschool and Summer Program for Young People

Recipient: All Saints Community Service and Development Corporation Address: 601 Jackson Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030

Amount Requested: \$250,000

Project Description: This funding would support the All Saints Community Service and Development Corporation (ASCSDC) Jubilee Center Program, a year round after-school and summer program for at-risk, low-income young people (typically between the ages five to twelve) living in public housing in Hoboken, New Jersey. The Jubilee Center Program provides young people with academic support and tutoring, computer training and access, arts and cultural activities, healthy meals and physical education, so they can succeed in school and overcome the barriers they face to grow into self-sufficient and productive citizens. The Jubilee Center Program provides a safe environment for young people and allows their working parents or guardians to be gainfully employed. Funding would be used for project staff and project expenses for a year-round afterschool and summer program.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: This project would provide young people with the services they need to grow into self sufficient, well-educated adults who, in turn, would impact the lives of future generations. Working families in public housing would benefit from this program by knowing their children are in a safe, secure, and enriching environment during afterschool and summertime hours.

Project Title: Jubilee Summer Academic Academy

Recipient: All Saints Community Service and Development Corporation

Address: 601 Jackson Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030

Amount Requested: \$150,000

Project Description: The Jubilee Summer Academic Academy is a six-week education support program for academically struggling young people from low-income working families who live in public housing in Hoboken, New Jersey. Certified teachers would lead remedial and academic skills enhancement instruction and tutoring, complemented by a computer lab with educational software, educational field trips, career exploration, and training for parents to improve their capacity to help with their children's academic achievement.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: The Jubilee Center's proposed Jubilee Summer Academic Academy project would allow young people living in public housing with access to educational support services needed to achieve academic success – a national priority for low-income, urban youth. This project would help them perform better in school and be better prepared for higher education, employment, and breaking the cycle of poverty. If these children are given access to the additional educational services they need, they would be better positioned to succeed in school, better prepared for higher education and work, and would ultimately grow into self sufficient, well-educated adults who, in turn, would impact the lives of future generations.

Project Title: Bayonne Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Project

Recipient: City of Bayonne

Address: 630 Avenue C, Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

Amount Requested: \$275,000

Project Description: Funding would be used to purchase technological equipment to combat the growth in motor vehicle crashes and traffic related injuries and fatalities.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: This project includes a combination of traffic calming devices, better speed enforcement equipment and other equipment to help the department better monitor, respond, assess and investigate traffic safety issues.

Project Title: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Essex, Hudson, & Union Counties Comprehensive Youth Mentoring Program

Recipient: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Essex, Hudson, & Union Counties

Address: 494 Broad Street, Suite 103 Newark, NJ 07102

Amount Requested: \$1,661,000

Project Description: This funding would support and significantly expand an evidence-based, data-driven, results oriented one-to-one mentoring program for at-risk children in Hudson, Essex, and Union Counties. The funding would be used to significantly expand an existing mentoring programs in these areas by doubling the number of youth served in the community. The Comprehensive Mentoring Program of Big Brothers Big Sisters is the premier mentoring program for at-risk youth, providing mentors to youth considered at-risk for juvenile delinquency, academic failure, and school behavior problems.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: This project would provide mentoring services to the children in communities like Newark and Jersey City that are in dire need of such programs. These areas have high crime rates and high levels of school drop-out, all of which are indicators of future success. This funding would allow this agency to not only develop more robust programs in New Jersey's two largest cities but also to expand more fully into other communities of need throughout Essex, Hudson & Union Counties.

Project Title: Boys & Girls Clubs of Perth Amboy Delinquency Prevention Center

Recipient: Boys & Girls Clubs of Perth Amboy

Address: 149 Kearny Avenue, Perth Amboy, New Jersey 08861

Amount Requested: \$344,409

Project Description: This funding would support operating costs to expand the existing Boys & Girls Clubs of Perth Amboy Delinquency Prevention Initiative (DPI). The DPI serves children ages nine to fifteen and is based on evidence-based, best practices in decreasing risk factors, and concurrently strengthening protective factors among high-risk youth. This proposal would expand the overall DPI model, and in particular, build the capacity of the academic component of DPI in order to reduce truancy levels of our target youth while increasing school achievement.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: The DPI targets youth who have been arrested and processed through one or more local or county judicial or law enforcement mechanisms. DPI is a proven model in providing high-risk youth with the protective factors and supports to offset the most formidable of risk factors. DPI plays a significant role in reducing juvenile delinquency and gang involvement of high-risk youth.

Project Title: Covenant House New Jersey Aftercare Program

Recipient: Covenant House New Jersey

Address: 330 Washington Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102

Amount Requested: \$150,000

Project Description: Funding would be used to support the operational costs associated with the Covenant House New Jersey (CHNJ) Aftercare program for homeless youth at our North Newark and Elizabeth sites. The goal of the CHNJ Aftercare (AC) program is to provide support to formerly homeless youth that includes young mothers and babies transitioning from Covenant House Shelter Programs into permanent affordable housing within Essex and Union County. The AC program strives to prepare youth for independent living and prevent youth from losing their apartments through eviction by providing in-house follow-up visits, crisis intervention and connections to essential wrap around services.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: The Aftercare specialist (AC) positions for which CHNJ is seeking funding would ensure that 25 homeless youth have access to employment; education, health care, mental health services, life skills training and necessary social services needed to avoid eviction. The goals of the AC department are to prevent the reoccurrence of homelessness by equipping youth with the skills, habits and attitudes to sustain permanent independent living. The communities that would benefit from the project are the cities of Newark and Elizabeth. This project would help address the critical social problem of youth homelessness and ensure that at-risk youth do not join the growing numbers of the chronically adult homeless population.

Project Title: D.A.R.E. to Talk: A Media/Hotline Resource for Parents Across New Jersey

Recipient: D.A.R.E New Jersey, Inc. Address: 292 Prospect Plains Road, Cranbury, New Jersey 08512

Amount Requested: \$400,000

Project Description: Funding would be used to create and implement a statewide media and technologically advanced resource mechanism designed to educate parents and teachers in a collaboration of D.A.R.E. Officers, teachers, and parents. Community members would access web-based, twenty-four hour hotline to address concerns regarding substance abuse and resistance for their K-12 age children.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: Positive parental involvement is associated with a range of desirable outcomes for children and young people. Through the development of this resource parents and teachers would be able to increase their knowledge and understanding of the drug temptations available to New Jersey school children and the steps they can take to help children avoid this pitfall. This site would help protect the hundreds of thousands of school children who are exposed to drugs and drug related incidents each year. This site would foster the involvement of thousands of parents across the state and give them the help they need to address the topic of drugs and violence with their children in an effort to save the future of our state's most important resource; its children and teens. The effect of this campaign would reach millions of people throughout the state in the media part of the initiative. Also, this initiative would create 10 jobs.

Project Title: Elizabeth Expansion of Fiber Network

Recipient: City of Elizabeth

Address: 50 Winfield Scott Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201

Amount Requested: \$400,000

Project Description: This project would create a network to utilize fiber at varying access points in order to enhance communications and network capability for all City Departments. The extended fiber would further enable additional access points to be included in the mesh network through the incorporation of connections at additional public facilities, providing a backbone for information to be linked.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: This technology would benefit the community on a multitude of levels. It would increase the efficient and effective transfer of data, improve overall communication, and enhance the ability of emergency services to respond to an array of situations thus improving the safety and wellbeing of our police, fire, and EMS. This technological foundation would enable surveillance in areas that have high potential for illegal activity as well as in areas that contain high resident and commuter volume. Through the installation of this network, critical information can be transmitted instantaneously to City Hall, Police Headquarters and the Emergency Response Center, increasing overall efficient municipal operations. Through enhancing the transfer of information, this initiative would also create an

environment more conducive for business growth and favorable conditions for new business development, while improving overall safety and response.

Project Title: Elizabeth Police Department Gunshot Location System Acquisition

Recipient: City of Elizabeth, New Jersey Police Department Address: 1 Police Plaza, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Amount Requested: \$1,500,000

Project Description: Funding would be used to purchase the ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System. Network sensors would be able to detect and calculate the position where the gun was fired and send the data to a central server accessible by law-enforcement agencies. Based on crime analysis, the Police Department would be targeting a 4 square mile coverage area where there has been a significant amount of crime and shots fired.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: ShotSpotter has also been responsible for producing countless arrests, decreasing police response time, increasing officer safety, pinpointing key forensic evidence, and saving numerous lives. This project would help maintain the safety of the 125,809 residents of the City of Elizabeth as well as the Police Force that is responsible for protecting those citizens and responding to violent crime incidents.

Project Title: Girl Scouts of the USA VIVA Tri-State: A Latina Outreach Initiative

Recipient: Girl Scouts of the USA

Address: 420 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10018

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000

Project Description: Funding would be used to recruit, train, and sustain a strong Girl Scout volunteer base within the Latina community and to engage even more young Latinas as Girl Scout members. VIVA Tri-State would aid Girl Scouts of the USA in cultivating community partnerships and increased capacity among select New Jersey, New York and Connecticut councils through recruitment, training and marketing tools; program evaluations; and sharing of best practices.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: Girl Scouting can help Latina youth combat their specific challenges by engaging more Latina girls and their families through VIVA, a program designed to build a strong volunteer base of adults who understand the issues Latina girls face. These funds would help recruit and train highly-skilled, bilingual Girl Scout volunteers that would build partnerships with Latino community leaders and organizations and recruit and train additional volunteers to lead Girl Scout troops. These volunteers' skills would also be transferable to a workplace setting.

Project Title: Goodwill Juvenile Justice Prevention Center of Harrison New Jersey

Recipient: Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey

Address: 400 Supor Boulevard, Harrison, New Jersey 07029

Amount Requested: \$630,000

Project Description: This funding would target youth offenders ages 16-21 at risk of, or who have had, involvement with the criminal justice system. The project establishes a Youth Technology Center that provides basic education services, wrap around support services, and career services to help these youth develop the necessary skills to become productive citizens and workers.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: Through participation in the process, students would have a clear understanding of their potential, which would help to empower them to set and accomplish realistic goals for themselves in their professional, educational and personal lives. Students would start developing work skills in a safe and controlled environment. By creating a work center that holds students accountable for not just their educational and personal development but also their professional development, Goodwill hopes to transform students' outlooks and assist them in setting higher goals and develop the skills necessary to identify a career path that would move them towards self sufficiency and independence. Also, Participants would be required to take part in the hands-on instruction and must build at least two computers over the course of the ten weeks – one computer for their own personal use and the other would be donated to a Newark elementary classroom. Participants would "Adopt a Class" to allow them the opportunity to give back to their community.

Project Title: Hoboken Save the Youth Program

Recipient: City of Hoboken

Address: 94 Washington Street, Hoboken, New Jersey 07030

Amount Requested: \$235,568

Project Description: Funding would be used to support Hoboken's Save the Youth program, which began in 2006, to provide Hoboken's youth with innovative and creative outlets as an alternative to at-risk behaviors that could lead to juvenile delinquency within the City of Hoboken. The original components of this program were music and dance, and it now includes video production and sports.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: Through positive encouragement and instruction, Hoboken's youth would have an opportunity to become part of the program's music and video, dance, and sports programs. Participation in these programs instills pride, self-confidence, and self worth in our youth and provides an artistic outlet of expression.

Project Title: Jersey City Housing Authority Security Upgrades

Recipient: City of Jersey City

Address: 280 Grove Street Jersey City, New Jersey 07302

Amount Requested: \$600,000

Project Description: This funding would be used to purchase needed security upgrades for the City of Jersey City's Housing Authority (JCHA) such as new Intercom systems, upgraded proximity systems and improved entrance control.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: Like many public housing authorities, JCHA is this city's largest provider of affordable housing, and primarily serves the city's resident most at risk. Because of a severe lack of funding, a considerable amount of reinvestment is needed to keep these communities viable and these buildings safe. It is anticipated that the installation of these new security upgrades would help to prevent anyone who is not a resident of one of the JCHA's sites from gaining entry to our buildings, which in turn would greatly reduce the number of burglaries, cut down on the amount of vandalism, and significantly deter drug trafficking in our communities, making the populations at these JCHA sites much safer.

Project Title: Jersey City Police Department Comprehensive Communication System

Recipient: City of Jersey City

Address: 280 Grove Street Jersey City, New Jersey 07302

Amount Requested: \$452,956

Project Description: Funding would be used to equip the new West Police District in Jersey City, New Jersey with a combined package of telecommunication systems and computer equipment.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: The purpose of this project is to continue the modernization of facilities for the Jersey City Police Department, providing greater efficiency, improved safety, better community relations, and a professional working environment. The project would benefit all communities in Jersey City, but it would especially benefit the citizens of the West District. As one of the fastest growing cities in the Northeast, providing modern facilities allows the Police

Department to perform duties efficiently and thoroughly. The Department can also utilize modern technology to interact not only with the public, but with other City, County, State, & Federal agencies to provide a coordinated response in the event of an emergency.

Project Title: Just One Soccer Youth Development Program

Recipient: Just One Neighborhood Program

Address: P.O. Box 9959 Newark, New Jersey 07104

Amount Requested: \$260,000

Project Description: This project would fund operating costs to expand a recreational soccer program to a year round youth development program that includes tutoring, mentoring, obesity prevention and life skills workshops. The Just One Neighborhood Program currently provides a recreational soccer program in the spring to Essex County youth. This program attracts at-risk minority youth to develop the children's leadership and decision making skills.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: Organized sports are a proven means to promote both self-esteem and personal achievement, which lead to a greater chance that an individual would remain drug free and actively involved in scholastic programs, making them more likely to graduate high school and attend college. Soccer has become a powerful tool in the area of youth development. At-risk youth would also benefit from tutoring, mentoring, obesity prevention and life skills workshops. Program activities would be structured to take place during the week before practices.

Project Title: Newark Police Surveillance Camera Project

Recipient: City of Newark

Address: 920 Broad Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000

Project Description: Funding would be used for the purchase and installation of fifty surveillance cameras. Newark Mayor Cory A. Booker has made public safety a cornerstone of his administration. The City of Newark plans to partner with the University of California-Riverside and the University of California-San Diego to deploy a rigorous evaluation of police practices in high crime areas of Newark. The primary purpose of this research project is to use cutting edge techniques to evaluate the effectiveness of camera surveillance in reducing urban crime. The City desires to purchase fifty security cameras for use in this project.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: In 2007 and early 2008, in response to a notorious murder of three college students and limited police resources, the City of Newark deployed 109 surveillance cameras in high crime areas to expand police effectiveness. A year after their deployment, violent crimes saw a dramatic 40 percent city-wide decrease. But because they were deployed without a rigorous framework for evaluating their effectiveness, ideological arguments have replaced rational discussions of costs and benefits. This project offers the first rigorous evaluation of the ongoing efforts by federal and local law enforcement to expand camera surveillance.

Project Title: Perth Amboy Police Department Technology Improvements

Recipient: City of Perth Amboy

Address: 260 High Street, Perth Amboy, New Jersey 08861

Amount Requested: \$500,000

Project Description: Funding would be used to upgrade the Perth Amboy Police Department's crime fighting technology by installing cameras for security surveillance and setting up a central system to monitor activities. Specifically, the system would be composed of 10 closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras which would be enclosed and protected by environmental housing and connected by fiber optic cables. The cameras would have a zoom and tilt lenses and a turning radius of 360 degrees. Cameras would be monitored by the City of Perth Amboy Police Department

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: With the ability to address the concerns of businesses and residents regarding crime in their community, the City would decrease the occurrence of criminal behavior and address the emerging gang problem. The City would take a prevention approach within the business district, including the train station, which would have a

positive economic impact. The City would be addressing the quality of life issues effecting neighborhoods like dumping, noise and graffiti.

Project Title: New Jersey Public School Teacher Safety Initiative

Recipient: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Graduate School of Professional and Applied Psychology

Address: 83 Somerset Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901

Amount Requested: \$712,500

Project Description: The funding for the New Jersey Public School Teacher Safety Initiative would provide for a comprehensive assessment of K-12 teachers' risk of student violence in New Jersey schools as well as provide school community outreach services such as teacher training, mentorship/support services and intervention, specifically designed to reduce violence towards teachers.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: The Initiative would pinpoint factors that contribute to violence towards teachers, and the critical resources and services necessary to prevent and/or treat this urgent problem more effectively, and train school personnel to implement program components to sustain the Initiative. Results of the initiative would be widely shared and have significant impact on the infrastructure of schools throughout New Jersey. In addition, the findings from the project would be disseminated to schools throughout the nation and the scientific community, thereby providing a national model to ultimately impact other states. This project would also create 12 new jobs.

Project Title: Union City Law Enforcement Technology

Recipient: City of Union City

Address: City of Union City, 3715 Palisade Avenue, Union City, NJ 07087

Amount Requested: \$500,000

Project Description: The funding would be used to purchase and install fifty video surveillance cameras along Bergenline and Summit Avenues to combat a concentration and increase in homicides, armed robberies, assaults and other crimes.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: This project would benefit the citizens of Union City and the surrounding communities by providing constant security monitoring of the public areas, streets, side streets, storefronts and building entrances in order to address the recent escalation in violent and nonviolent crime along Bergenline and Summit Avenues in Union City.

Project Title: Urban League of Hudson County Project Restore Youth Development Program

Recipient: Urban League of Hudson County

Address: 257 Martin Luther King Drive, Jersey City, New Jersey, 07305

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000

Project Description: This funding would be used to expand an existing anti-crime/violence prevention program for at-risk and court involved adolescents in Hudson County. Expanded activities would include substance abuse services, the provision of Multisystemic Therapy and mentoring services.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: The purpose of Project Restore is to reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity in designated high crime neighborhoods. The anticipated benefits include a reduction in juvenile crime and gang affiliation in Jersey City's Greenville community. The project would also achieve a reduction in the number of juveniles that are remanded to juvenile facilities. Project Restore would have the positive impact on the number of youth that reoffend. The project would also create jobs.

Project Title: Weehawken Law Enforcement Project

Recipient: Township of Weehawken

Address: 400 Park Avenue, Weehawken, New Jersey 07086

Amount Requested: \$150,000

Project Description: This project includes the purchase and installation of mobile data computers (MDCs) for 15 of the Township's 25 police car fleet and the associated equipment (servers, computers, IP Based video recorder system, closed circuit television (CCTV) system, software) to support the project. If funded, all on-duty officers in patrol cars would be equipped with MDCs. The computers are fixed in police cars and provide access to key State law enforcement databases, providing law enforcement responders with vital information.

Explanation/Value to Taxpayer: The MDCs would allow the officers to further enhance the efficiency of their operations while increasing the overall quality of law enforcement services. The MDC's would allow the officers to communicate more effectively with other law enforcement agencies, access state and federal databases while on patrol, prepare reports in the patrol car, reduce radio traffic and protect privacy. It is essential that Weehawken's Police, EMS & Fire agencies are able to communicate with each other and neighboring mutual aid jurisdictions and emergency management agencies, as well as with regional, state and federal partners given Weehawken's role in protecting national security interests.